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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE re application of

Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al.

Attn: BOX PCT

DEC 1 0 2001

Serial No. 09/936,989

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Docket No. 2001_1298A

Filed September 19, 2001

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS GENE AND METHOD FOR DIAGNOSING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS [Corresponding to PCT/JP00/01697 Filed March 21, 2000]

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 Sir:

This is responsive to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated October 30, 2001.

The Notice to File Missing Parts requires the filing of an executed Declaration.

However, an executed Declaration has been previously filed on October 30, 2001. Copies of the executed Declaration and cover letter are enclosed herewith. A copy of the PTO postcard receipt is also enclosed. It is noted that the PTO fee for filing the executed Declaration was also concurrently submitted on October 30, 2001.

Issuance of the Official Filing Receipt is accordingly requested.

Respectfully submitted, Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al.

Warren M. Cheek, Jr. Registration No. 33,367

Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 November 16, 2001